

DIENER et al., Serial No. 10/615,771

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the attached page 3 to the specification between pages 2 and 4.

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It is known to mix inorganic salts with anticaking agents which prevent or decrease caking of the particles. This technique is employed, for example, in fertilizers which, owing to their seasonal use, must be comparatively storage stable.

- 5 DD-A-117 787 teaches that piles of urea granules (particle size of from 1 to 2.5 mm, termed prills) can be stabilized by treating with glues based on carboxymethyl cellulose which are mixed with fillers such as calcium carbonate or calcium oxide. US 3,388,990
- 10 discloses fertilizer substances such as urea, ammonium nitrate, ammonium phosphate, ammonium sulfate, ammonium chloride, potassium chloride, lime superphosphate and their mixtures, which are treated with synthetic polymers, such as carboxymethyl cellulose or methyl cellulose and a surface-active substance;
- 15 US 5,472,476 teaches comparable compositions in which the surface-active substance is an ester of alkylphosphoric acid. According to the teaching of EP-A-246 719, hydroxypropyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose or hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose is used as an aid in water-insoluble-polymer-coated
- 20 fertilizers, such as urea, ammonium sulfate, ammonium nitrate, ammonium chloride or mixed fertilizers. SU-A-1570255 (unpublished in the original, see Derwent Abstract 94-041345/05) relates to the use of carbamide treated with sodium carboxymethyl cellulose and a surface-active compound for producing mineral fertilizers.
- 25 DE-A-28 21 703 teaches salt mixtures of ammonium salts, alkali metal salts and calcium salts of inorganic acids and urea, whose salt particles are covered with a from 0.1 to 50  $\mu$ m thick protective film against the absorption of moisture.
- 30 Polysaccharides, inter alia, and their derivatives can be used as protective film, especially starch, cellulose, manna, sodium alginate, methyl cellulose, carboxymethyl starch and carboxymethyl cellulose. EP-A-461 886 discloses a process for coating particles of piperazine, triethylenediamine, ammonium
- 35 sulfate, ammonium chloride or sodium chloride with water-soluble cellulose esters, and WO-A-98/56595 discloses powders for preparing solutions for lithographic printing processes, with the powders comprising ammonium phosphate or alkali metal phosphates, a solid polysaccharide, for example cellulose or carboxymethyl
- 40 cellulose, and a preservative.
- DE-A-24 35 008 teaches a process for coating water-soluble or dispersible particles, in particular enzymes, with a film-forming polymer, such as methyl cellulose, hydroxybutyl methyl cellulose,
- 45 sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl methyl cellulose or hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose by atomizing an aqueous solution of the polymer in a fluidized bed reactor in which the particles